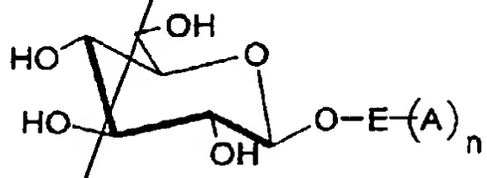
CLAIMS

16. A ternary glucosyl complex, which is a bioprecursor of at least one retinoic active principle, intended for percutaneous application, of formula (I)



(I)

in which:

- E represents a linear, branched or cyclized hydrocarbon-based spacer group of aliphatic or aromatic nature which may contain one or more oxygen or hetero atoms and which may bear one or more carbonyl groups,
- A represents a residue of a molecule of the retinoic active principle, linked to the spacer group via a carboxylate function,
- n = 1 or 2.

17. The glucosyl complex claim 16, wherein the retinoic active principle is retinoic acid.

18. The glucosyl complex of claim 16, wherein the group E represents a group which has a complementary pharmaceutical and/or cosmetic activity.

19. The glucosyl complexas of claim 16, wherein the group E has a moisturizing, depigmenting and/or antibacterial activity.

20. The glucosyl complex of claim 16, wherein the group E represents a group derived from L or D glycerol, hydroquinone or flavonoids, in particular flavonoids of natural origin.

21. The glucosyl complex of claim 16, which is selected from:

- para-retinoyl-phenyl-glucopyranoside,
- diretinoyl-1,2-propanyl-glucopyranoside,
- daidzin retinoate, and
- genistin retinoate.

22. A pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition for topical use, which contains a glucosyl complex of claim 16, combined with a vehicle which is suitable for percutaneous administration.

23. The composition of claim 22, wherein, when it is applied to the skin, the complex undergoes an enzymatic double reaction, first of β-glucocerebrosidase type leading to hydrolysis between the glucose and the spacer group, and then of esterase type leading to hydrolysis between the spacer group and the active

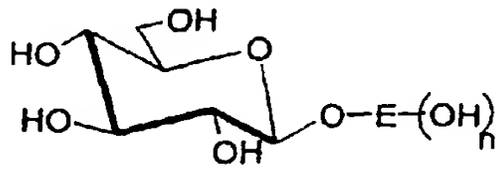
principle, the active principle thus being released in a delayed manner without an accumulation effect in the various layers of the skin.

24. The composition of claim 22, which contains from 0.001% to 10% by weight and preferably 0.01% to 0.1% by weight of glucosyl complex relative to the total weight of the composition.

25. The composition of claim 22, which is in the form of an emulsion.

26. The composition of claim 22, which is in the form of spherules, for instance liposomes, nanocapsules or nanospheres.

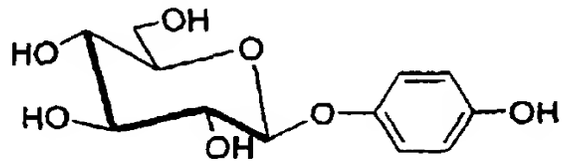
27. A process for preparing a complex of claim 16, wherein a compound of formula (II)



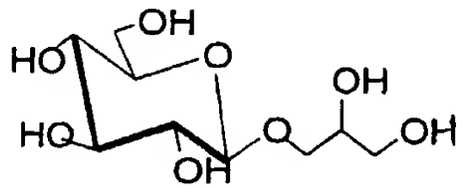
(II)

is reacted with the active principle in acid chloride form.

28. The process of claim 27, wherein the compound of formula II corresponds to formula IIa below:



29. The process of claim 27, wherein the compound of formula II corresponds to formula IIb below:



30. The process of claim 27, wherein the acid chloride is retinoyl chloride.